

# **INTENTIONAL COMMUNICATION**

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## **Disability Rights Wisconsin**

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# **INTENTIONAL COMMUNICATION**

= Interacting **for a Reason**

▶ her/his name is \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **You Want**

- ✓ **to be taken seriously**
- ✓ **to be understood**
- ✓ **to be respected**

**So does the other person**

☐ You **WANT** an outcome.

So does \_\_\_\_.

▶ **Wanting** creates **Energy**

▶ Expressions of Energy can be  
\_\_\_\_ Skillful \_\_\_\_ Not so Skillful

☐ What do usually do when you want ...

\_\_\_\_ Skillful \_\_\_\_ Not so Skillful

- **What do you wish would not happen?**
- **When IT happens, what**
  - \_\_thoughts?**
  - \_\_sensations?**
  - \_\_emotions?**
- **What happens to your INTENTION?**

## ► REACTION Cycle

event



**reaction** (habitual, anticipatory, generalized)

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From reaction to ► RESPONSE Cycle

event

*pause*



**response**

## ❑ Possible Sources of Conflict

Honest Differences

Poor Practices

Working WITH Conflict  $\neq$  Winning

Working **with** Conflict

= trying to be **influential**

= allowing yourself to be **influenced**

= maintaining a **respectful relationship**

## ► Your interaction Style when you want...

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/\ → □ ← /\

O → □ O

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O ↗↗ O

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☒ O → O

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←

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☒ **Pauses, Questions, Consideration**

► What do you want to achieve for \_\_\_\_\_?

□ How do you talk about her/him?

✓ values

✓ temperament

✓ communication / behavior

what words to describe?

✓ sensory issues

✓ learning (strengths) – What Helps

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**Children  $\neq$  Little Adults**

**Children have their own Perspectives**



## ● INTENTIONAL STRATEGIES

- ⇒ **Let what distracts you - remind you**  
(of your original intention)
- ⇒ **Acknowledge** (the part that's true)
- ⇒ **Invite** > *please say more about...*
- ⇒ **Clarify** > *do you mean...*
- ⇒ **Summarize** > *if I'm understanding...*
- ⇒ **Focus** > *help me understand...*  
*...how this relates to \_\_\_\_?*  
*...how this will be helpful for \_\_\_\_?*

# ● **ASSUME LESS, CONSIDER MORE**

**Ask: What do you think she or he**

- ▶ understands about ...?**
- ▶ is trying to accomplish?**
- ▶ needs or wants?**
- ▶ is trying to cope with?**

- **When working with conflict**
  - ▷ **Decide what before how**  
**(outcomes before methods).**
  - ▷ **Listen. Ask questions.**
  - ▷ **Keep the whole child in context.**
  - ▷ **Avoid “all or nothing” decisions.**
  - ▷ **What could you do differently?**